

# WHEELER HIGH SCHOOL COURSE EXPECTATIONS

## HONORS ALGEBRA II

Mr. James Cervini

cervinij@northstonington.k12.ct.us

Room #225

### I. Course Overview:

Fundamental skills of mathematics will be applied to such topics as functions, equations and inequalities, probability and statistics, logarithmic and exponential relationships, quadratic and polynomial equations, and matrices. Technology will be used to introduce and expand upon the areas of study listed above. Use of computers and graphing calculators will be incorporated into each chapter.

### II. Overall Course Objectives:

- A function is a special kind of relation where each member of the domain of the function is associated with exactly one member of the range of the function.
- We can study a very wide range of phenomena by starting with a very small group of “parent” functions and applying transformations to those functions.
- Students will understand quadratic functions can be used to model real world relationships and the key points in quadratic functions have meaning in the real world context.
- Students will use graphing calculators and other technology to explore and deepen their understanding of mathematics.
- The exponential growth family will always overtake the polynomial family no matter how large the degree or how large the leading coefficient.
- The end behavior of a polynomial is determined by its degree, even or odd, and the sign of its leading coefficient.
- When a function is one-to one we can undo it and define an inverse function.
- The logarithmic form can always be rewritten in exponential form and vice versa.
- The laws of exponents make the laws of logarithms sensible and easy to remember.
- An informal limiting process permits us obtain a continuous compounding formula from the finite compounding formula and define the number  $e$ .
- The domain of a logarithmic family member guarantees that the argument of the function is nonnegative.
- The logarithmic and exponential families are rich in applications to the real world.

### III. Wheeler High School Academic Expectations:

- Analysis (Met in this class)
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Literacy

IV. *Material Required:*

- Notebook: 3-Ring Binder OR Spiral Notebook (3 sections in either)
- Textbook: ALGEBRA II- Big Ideas Math- Larson- 2015
- Pencils and erasers
- Texas Instruments TI-84 or similar type of graphing calculator. If a student cannot afford a graphing calculator the school will provide them with one.

V. *Class/Behavior Expectations:*

- Cell phones should not be on a student's desk unless directed to be used by a teacher for class purposes;
- Students should not be talking on cell phones during class.
- Cell phones should not be used to record or photograph students or teachers without their permission. If this occurs, students will be disciplined appropriately and will automatically lose their privilege of carrying a cell phone during the school day for the remainder of that school year;
- Cell phones are not allowed in classrooms during mid-term or final exams and they cannot be used for their calculator during such assessments.
- **No hats allowed in the classroom.**

VI. *Attendance Policy (BOE Policy #5113) – as stated in handbook:*

The North Stonington Public Schools believes that regular school attendance is essential for an effective and productive learning experience. The sequential presentation of school learning requires a continuity of instruction. The maximum benefits for each individual child can be achieved only from participation and interaction in daily activity. In addition to instruction, other learning processes take place each day that are vital to a student's overall emotional and social growth. Time lost in school is irretrievable in terms of instructional opportunity and social interaction.

*A student is considered to be "in attendance" if present at their school, or an activity sponsored by the school (i.e., field trip), for at least half of the scheduled school day. Any student in school for less than half of the scheduled school day will be considered absent. A student serving an out-of-school suspension or expulsion will be considered absent.*

Excused Absence

The Board believes a student should not be absent from school without the parents' knowledge and consent, therefore verification of an absence should be in writing by a parent or guardian. The first nine (9) absences will be considered excused if a parent approves the absence and if it is properly documented with a signed note from a parent or a notation is made in the student's attendance record by a school official who received either a verbal or electronic communication from the parent.

For the tenth (10) absence and all absences thereafter, absences will be considered excused for the following reasons:

- a. Student Illness (verified by a medical professional);
- b. Student observance of a religious holiday;
- c. Death in a student's family or emergency beyond the control of the student's family;
- d. Mandated court appearance
- e. Extraordinary educational opportunities (i.e., college visits) pre-approved by district administrators and in accordance with SDE guidelines.

There shall be no penalty for an excused absence. Students are encouraged to bring notes from their parent/guardian or physician to the Main Office on the day of return to school. These notes must specify the reason(s) for the absence and must conform to the Board of Education Policy # 5113. Excused absences will be marked in PowerSchool, and students will be allowed to make up all work missed. When a student is absent for extended periods of time--more than three days--parents may obtain assignments from the teachers through the counseling office. Failure to make up assignments may result in a grade of zero for each missing assignment. A student may expect to have one day for each day of absence in order to make up missed work.

#### Unexcused Absence:

An unexcused absence occurs when a student is out of school beyond the first nine (9) absences, parent documentation is not provided for the first nine (9) absences and the absences does not meet one of the excused absence reasons listed above. For every unexcused absence, the student will not be allowed to make up or receive credit for work missed.

#### Tardy to Class:

If a student is more than fifteen (15) minutes late for class, other than because of a school-sanctioned event, he or she will be considered absent from class.

#### Limit on Total Number of Absences (High School Only):

No student will receive course credit for a full year course after having been absent from that course for more than twenty (20) class periods (excused or unexcused) during the school year for reasons other than school sponsored activities (i.e. field trips).

#### *VII. Grading Policy (percentages, total points, etc.):*

- TESTS and QUIZZES - There will be a 100 point test given after every chapter. There will be a quiz worth 25 points given in each chapter around the halfway point. There are no retakes or tests/quizzes dropped. If a student is absent they will take the test or quiz the next day.
- HOMEWORK - Homework will be assigned on a weekly basis. Homework will be collected and graded out of 10 points. Late assignments will lose points.
- PROJECT – There will be a small group project after each chapter in which students will apply information that they have learned up to that point to solve a real world problem. Points will vary according to the length of the project.

### *VIII. Final Assessment Policy*

For one-credit, full-year courses, examinations are given at the conclusion of each semester—one at the midpoint and one at the end of the school year. For half-credit courses, a final will be given at the end of the semester. All examinations, except in selected classes, are one and one-half hours in length. All students must arrive on time and remain in class for the full duration of the exam period. Students taking the AP test will not be required to sit for a final exam. Seniors are exempt from taking a final exam with a 90% or higher in that class. Normally, no excuse for missing an exam other than illness will be accepted. The Principal must give such permission.

### *IX. Academic Integrity Statement*

The faculty and administration of Wheeler Middle/High School demand high standards of academic performance and academic honesty. Anything less would jeopardize quality education and allow our students to deny themselves needed skills and knowledge. For this reason students who cheat on their assigned work, reports, research papers, quizzes, tests or examination risk prompt and punitive action by both their teacher and the school. Examples of violations may include, but are not limited to:

- Giving or receiving aid on tests and graded assignments
- Unauthorized talking during tests
- Copying regular homework/exercises
- Unapproved discussion of examinations/assignments contents
- Cheating on peer reviews of student work
- Misuse of technology

### *X. Teacher Availability for Extra Help (Day and Time):*

- X-Block every day
- After school until 2:45-3:00